

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : **Akihiro YAMORI et al.**

Filed : Concurrently herewith

For : MOVING PICTURES ENCODING METHOD AND APPARATUS

Serial No.: Concurrently herewith

March 16, 2000

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

S I R:

Prior to examination please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims:

Claim 20, line 3, change "according to claims 11 through 13" to --claim 11--.

Kindly add the following new claims 21 and 22:

--21. A moving pictures decoding apparatus, which corresponds to any of the moving pictures encoding apparatus according to claim 12, and which has motion compensating means corresponding to prediction from a forward field motion vector for one field, and from a backward field.

22. A moving pictures decoding apparatus, which corresponds to any of the moving pictures encoding apparatus according to claim 13, and which has motion compensating means corresponding to prediction from a

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